203-010050-005

Original Title Page



U.S.-FLAG FAR EAST DISCUSSION AGREEMENT

FMC Agreement No. 203-010050-005

A Cooperative Working Agreement Among Ocean Common Carriers

NOTE: This Agreement was last republished on December 20, 1982. It does not contain an expiration date.

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#### <u>ARTICLE 1 - NAME OF AGREEMENT</u>

The name of this Agreement is the "U.S.-Flag Far East Discussion Agreement."

#### ARTICLE 2 - PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Agreement is to permit common carriers by water offering service on U.S.-flag vessels to establish a cooperative working arrangement for joint consideration of and action on transportation matters of mutual interest, pursuant to the Agreement's terms, to assure the availability of efficient and economically sound U.S.-flag liner operations at fair and reasonable rates, terms and conditions, and to promote an efficient, stable and economic transportation system in U.S. foreign commerce.



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#### ARTICLE 3 - PARTIES TO AGREEMENT

The Parties to this Agreement are U.S.-flag ocean common carriers engaged in freight transportation services:

American President Lines, Ltd. 1111 Broadway Oakland, CA 94607

A.P. MOLLER-MAERSK SEALAND 50, Esplanadan DK-1098, Copenhagen Denmark

#### ARTICLE 4 - GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement covers the trades and various sub-trades (collectively, the "Trade") between ports and points in the Far East and ports in the United States (including its commonwealths, territories and possessions) and interior and coastal points in the United States via such U.S. ports. For purposes of this

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Agreement, "Far East" means the foreign countries, and portions thereof, included in the Pacific Basin, Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf and Red Sea regions that extend from Japan and the Eastern U.S.S.R. in the north, to Southern Asia, the Philippines and Malaysia/Indonesia in the south, and to Southwest Asia from the Suez Canal to Burma, inclusive, Sri Lanka and Africa on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, as encompassed by Trade Route Nos. 12, 17, 18, 22, 28 and 29 defined by the U.S. Maritime Administration in United States Oceanborne Foreign Trade Routes, MarAd/DOT (August 1986).

#### ARTICLE 5: AGREEMENT AUTHORITY

- 5.1 This Agreement authorizes the Parties to discuss, consider, exchange information and data and, where possible, agree upon and/or present, jointly and/or separately, U.S.-flag positions pertaining to the following matters of mutual interest:
- (a) Cargo movements, seasonality and other fluctuations of traffic flows and related data bearing on the level and frequency of liner services, particularly U.S.-flag liner services, required by the shipping public.
- (b) Practices in connection with the receipt, carriage and delivery of cargo, including cargo classifications

and cargo space accommodations, and, the operation by the Parties and other carriers, of vessels, equipment and facilities in the Trade.

- (c) Performance of joint surveys of Trade conditions and needs, present and future, including, for example, exchange of operating cost data.
- (d) Effectiveness and responsiveness of self-policing systems and related costs and contracts; development of specific evidence of suspected illegal pricing activities, and other means of identifying and eliminating malpractices in the Trade.
- (e) Cooperative working arrangements; liner pools; fuel and energy requirements; environmental controls; economic, political and fiscal policies; port development; and commercial and governmental practices affecting U.S.-flag liner services or access to cargo in the Trade.
- (f) Cost of service relating to cargo moving in the Trade and transportation rates, including through rates, and surcharges, conditions of carriage, rules, practices and tariffs and service contracts therefor; provided, however, that the Parties do not intend to discuss rates, rules, costs, or conditions of carriage of cargo shipped within the Defense Transportation System or offers to perform transportation services within that system.

- (g) Practices, rate structures and policies relating to the interchange of traffic with other carriers; provided, however, that to the extent intermodal transportation is involved, the Parties do not intend to discuss inland divisions (as distinct from inland portions) of through routes within the United States.
- (h) Any matter within the scope of agreements effective under the Shipping Act of 1984 and/or other authority relating to the Trade, provided that any Party who is not a member of any such other agreement will not be privy to information or data that are confidential pursuant to such agreement.
- 5.2 The Parties agree that they will exchange information and data relevant to the purpose of this Agreement as may be appropriate from time to time. Absent objection from any Party, discussion hereunder and exchanges of information may be accomplished by mail, telephone, telex, telecopier and other communications systems. Nothing herein may be construed as obligating any Party to exchange such information or data, or as limiting the right of any Party to continue or to make changes in its present rates, rules and practices.
- 5.3 Without limitation of the authority described above, the Parties may agree upon common positions and present these, jointly and/or separately, to conferences, rate agreements and other arrangements effective in the Trade, and to United States and foreign governments, departments, agencies and governmental

entities; investigate economic and competitive conditions and cooperate in joint efforts to eliminate rebating and other adverse conditions in the Trade; and, agree upon coordination of vessel sailings, chartering, joint service, pooling and other forms of rationalization of their common carrier services, and uniform or agreed rules, practices and procedures relating thereto. Nothing in this Agreement, however, authorizes the Parties to carry out any agreement that may be reached hereunder which is required to be filed under the Shipping Act of 1984, unless separately filed and effective under the Shipping Act of 1984.

5.4 The Parties to this Agreement are also authorized to meeting together, discuss, consider, exchange information and reach agreements with the parties to the Japanese-Flag Far East-United States Discussion Agreement, FMC No. 203-010905, as amended, upon matters of mutual concern common to the scopes of the two Agreements. No agreement or understanding reached under this Agreement which is required to be filed under the Shipping Act of 1984 shall be implemented until such agreement is filed with the Federal Maritime Commission and becomes effective under the provisions of the said Act.

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5.5 The Parties may establish such guidelines and procedures as they deem desirable for the implementation and administration of this Agreement. Any such guidelines and procedures will be consistent with the terms of this Agreement, and will neither expand nor diminish the authority herein. The Parties may establish guidelines relating to the terms and procedures of their individual service contracts. Any individual service contract guidelines shall be voluntary, and shall be submitted confidentially to the Federal Maritime Commission in the form and manner required by FMC regulations.

## ARTICLE 6: OFFICIALS OF AGREEMENT AND DELEGATIONS OF AUTHORITY

6.1 The Parties will from time to time select or designate an Agreement Chairman. The Chairman or his designee will preside at meetings of the Agreement membership and will file minutes and other documents as may be required by the Federal Maritime Commission. The dates and locations of Agreement meetings will be at the call of the Chairman.

- 6.2 The Agreement Chairman or his designee and Agreement Counsel each have authority to execute and file with the Federal Maritime Commission on behalf of the Parties any agreements that may be reached pursuant to this Agreement and, subject to Article 8 hereof, any amendment of this Agreement, and to submit associated supporting materials as may be required.
- they deem desirable for the furtherance of the purpose of this Agreement. Unless otherwise authorized by the Parties, only duly appointed standing committees will have power to take final action under this Agreement. Other committees will only report and/or recommend to the Parties. Committees will meet at such times and places as they deem necessary and convenient for the performance of their duties. Advance notice will be given to the Agreement Chairman of the dates and (subject to Article 5.1(h) hereof) the scope of all committee meetings. The Agreement Chairman will designate a Chairman to preside at committee meetings, prepare reports or minutes if required, and perform such other functions on behalf of the Parties as may be appropriate.

# ARTICLE 7 - MEMBERSHIP, WITHDRAWAL, READMISSION AND EXPULSION

Any common carrier by water that regularly offers service on U.S.-flag liner vessels in freight transportation service between ports in the Far East and ports in the United States may become a

Party to this Agreement upon the unanimous consent of all parties hereto. Any Party which ceases to offer such U.S.-flag liner service for a period of six consecutive months will forthwith cease to be a Party hereto.

# ARTICLE 8 - VOTING

This Agreement will not be amended or modified without the unanimous consent of the Parties.

# ARTICLE 9 - DURATION AND TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement will enter into force on the day that it becomes effective pursuant to section 6 of the Shipping Act of 1984. The Agreement will continue in effect so long as membership herein is maintained by two or more Parties.

ARTICLE 10 - NEUTRAL BODY POLCING

Not Applicable.

ARTICLE 11 - PROHIBITED ACTS

Not Applicable.

ARTICLE 12 - CONSULTATION; SHIPPERS' REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS

Not Applicable.

ARTICLE 13 - INDEPENDENT ACTION

Not Applicable.

#### ARTICLE 14 -**EXPENSES**

Each Party will bear the expenses of its representatives in connection with attendance at meetings of the Parties. All other expenses of such meetings and of the carrying out and amendment of this Agreement, including legal fees and costs of consultants or other services, will be apportioned as the Parties from time to time decide.

## SIGNATURE PAGE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties to this Agreement hereby agree this 31st day of January, 2000 to amend the Agreement as per the attached pages and to file same with the U.S. Federal Maritime Commission.

AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES, LTD.

Name: David F. Smith

Title: Attorney-in-Fact

A.P. MOLLER-MAERSK SEALAND

Name: David F. Smith Title: Attorney-in-Fact

FMC Agreement No.: 010050-011 Effective Date: Sunday, October 6, 2002\_ Downloaded from WWW.FMC.GOV on Thursday, April 27, 2017